

SENATE BILL 2784

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, relative to school attendance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3001(c)(4), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (A) and adding the following as a new subdivision (B):

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (c)(4)(A), a parent or guardian of a student who has accumulated five (5) or more days of unexcused absences during the school year, and who is subject to the LEA's progressive truancy interventions in § 49-6-3007:

(i) May withdraw the student from school during the school year if the withdrawal occurs in the first month of a school semester; and

(ii) Shall not withdraw the student from school during the school year in a month other than the first month of a school semester unless:

(a) The student's place of residence changes;

(b) The student is seeking to withdraw for transfer to another school or LEA pursuant to a local board of education's open enrollment policy or out-of-district transfer policy; or

(c) The director of schools and the student's parent or guardian determines that withdrawing from school is in the student's best interest.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to the 2020-2021 school year and each school year thereafter.